

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Estonian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Railroads and Shale Mining in Northeastern Estonia	DATE DISTR.	5 July 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The branch railroad from Sonda to Mustvee (see page 2) was operating in 1948.
2. The narrow-gauge railroad from Vaivara to Viivikonna was repaired by German PW labor in the fall of 1946. Oil shale was quarried at Viivikonna and sent by this railroad to Vaivara. From there it was sent to Kivioli for refining.
3. A standard-gauge railroad was built from Sompa to Tammiku in the fall of 1948. At this time, a new shale combine was established, and new mines were opened at Tammiku. Mining groups also moved to Puru and Ereda, which are nearby.
4. The shale oil refinery at Ahtme was in working order by the summer of 1946, but was not being used, because the mines were still out of commission. By the summer of 1949, the mines at Ahtme were working day and night; but the refinery was still idle, because the shale was being sent from Ahtme by standard-gauge railroad to Johvi and on to Kivioli for refining.
5. A large, underground water main was laid, at a fair depth, southeastward from Ahtme at the end of 1948. Its purpose is not known.

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Comment: This implies that Ahtme has also been provided with a railroad line, either directly from Johvi, or by extending the Sompa - Tammiku branch line.

25X1

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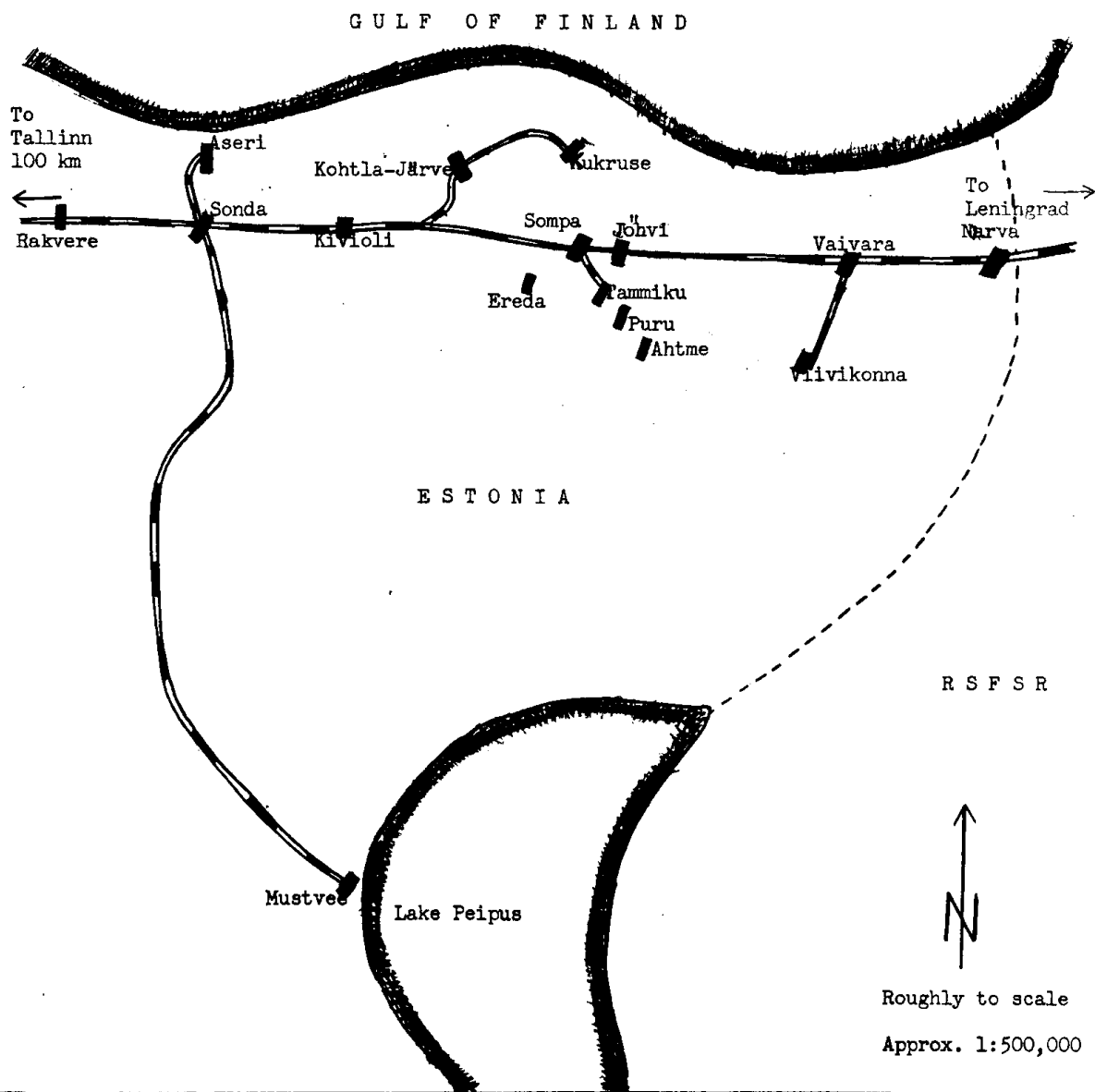
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